Amendments to the Claims:

1-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A television system for presenting interactive television services to a user, the system comprising:

a local memory;

means for determining the availability of data from a data source;

means for capturing data, said means for capturing data including means for capturing a first portion of data, wherein the means for capturing data is structured and arranged to cause one or more components of the television system to be powered down after the first portion of data has been downloaded;

means for storing the first portion in a first area of the local memory, the first portion having a first specified identity;

means for determining whether the first portion references a second portion of data depending on a value of one or more parameters stored in the local memory, the second portion having a second specified identity;

said means for capturing data further including means for capturing the second portion and storing the second portion in the first area of local memory in the event that a reference between the first portion and the second portion is found, wherein the data captured is usable to provide interactive services and the second portion is transmitted at a specified/scheduled time of availability; and

means for monitoring the time and causing the means for capturing the second portion to be activated at the specified/scheduled time of availability.

41. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the second portion is transmitted as one or a plurality of conditionally linked software objects, and the system includes means for resolving the identities of the linked software objects while one or a plurality of the software objects are captured and stored.

42. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40 that is operable to detect the presence of an external device.

43. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40 that is operable to download driver software conditionally upon the presence of an external device.

44. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 42, wherein the external device is a communications adapter.

45. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 44 wherein the communications adapter communicates via wireless means.

46. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the second portion is transmitted in a platform-independent form and the system comprises means for converting the second portion into a form that can be executed locally.

47. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the local memory includes volatile and non-volatile memory.

48. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the first area of the local memory is volatile memory.

49. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 48, wherein the volatile memory is DRAM.

50. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the first area of the local memory is in a hard drive.

51. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, further comprising means for processing the first and second portions of data based on steps wholly or partially proscribed in code contained within a downloaded object, wherein the processed data is stored in a second area of the local memory for use in presenting said interactive services.

52. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, the system being operable to perform the capturing/downloading of data while the system is not presenting services to a user.

53. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the data source is at least one of a broadcast television network and the internet.

54. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40 that is operable to determine whether data that is scheduled to be transmitted from the data source is more recent/up-to-date than the data in the local memory and prevent or omit a scheduled download in the event that data from the data source is determined not to be more recent/up-to-date than the data in local memory.

55. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein one or more portions of the system are powered up immediately prior to receipt of data from the data source and powered down upon receipt of said data.

56. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein a portion of the data captured from the data source comprises a service entitlement or disentitlement message addressed to the system.

57. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the presented interactive service comprises an electronic program guide or an on-screen television magazine.

58. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the presented interactive service comprises an interactive game.

59. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the presented interactive service comprises playback of a stored video or audio clip, or a video or audio stream.

60. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 40, comprising a set-top-box or television or video-recorder, cordless or mobile telephone, media jukebox, personal digital assistant, mobile phone, or combinations thereof.

61. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the first portion captured is followed by other portions, in an order such that no portion is broadcast until all other portion(s) that reference the first portion have been broadcast beforehand.

62. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the first portion and/or second portion comprise a software executable.

63. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the second portion comprises data to determine the appearance of the interactive service displayed by the television system.

64. (Previously Presented) A television system as claimed in claim 40, wherein the first portion and/or second portion comprises a checksum or digital signature.

65. (Currently Amended) A method for presenting interactive television services to a user of a television system, the method comprising:
    determining availability of data from a data source;
    capturing at least some of the available data;
    storing a first portion of the available data in a first area of a local memory, said first

portion having a first specified identity;

determining whether the first portion references a second portion of the available data depending on a value of one or more parameters stored in the local memory, the second portion having a second specified identity;

storing the second portion in the first area of the local memory in the event that a reference between the first and second portions is found, wherein the data captured is usable to provide interactive television services;

receiving an indication of a designated/scheduled time of availability of the second portion; and

monitoring time and arranging for capture of the second portion at the designated/scheduled time of availability; and

causing one or more components of the television system to be powered down after the first portion of data has been downloaded.

66. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, wherein the second portion of data is transmitted as one or a plurality of conditionally linked data objects, and the method comprises determining the relevant data within the linked data objects after the second portion of data is stored.

67. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, wherein the data is transmitted in a platform-independent form and the method further comprises converting data captured into a form that can be executed locally.

68. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, wherein the local memory includes volatile and non-volatile memory.

69. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, comprising processing the first and second portions of data according to their identities, writing the processed data to a second area of the local memory, and using the processed data to present interactive television

services to the user.

70. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 69, wherein the first and second memory areas are volatile memory.

71. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 70, wherein the volatile memory is DRAM.

72. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 69, wherein the step of processing the data is done based on steps wholly or partially proscribed in code contained within a downloaded data object.

73. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, comprising capturing/downloading data while the system is not presenting services to a user.

74. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, wherein the data source is at least one of a broadcast television network and the internet.

75. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 65, wherein the television system comprises a set-top-box or television or video-recorder, cordless or mobile telephone, media jukebox, personal digital assistant, mobile phone, or combinations thereof.

76. (Currently Amended) A computer program recorded on a computer-readable medium, for presenting interactive television services to a user of a television system, the computer program having code or instructions for:

determining availability of data from a data source;

capturing the available data;

storing a first portion of the available data in a first area of a local memory, said first portion having a specified identity;

determining whether the first portion references a second portion of the available data depending on a value of one or more parameters stored in the local memory, the second portion comprising executable software code and having a specified identity;

storing the second portion in the first area of the local memory in the event that a reference between the first and second portions is found, wherein the second portion is transmitted at a specified/scheduled time; and

capturing the second portion at the specified/scheduled time; and

causing one or more components of the television system to be powered down after the first portion of data has been downloaded.

77. (Previously Presented) A computer program as claimed in claim 76, comprising code or instructions for processing the first and second portions of data according to their identities, writing the processed data to a second area of the local memory, and using the processed data to present interactive television services to the user.